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## **Federal Court Upholds Michigan's Restrictions on Out-of-State Waste**

*Sen. Sikkema calls ruling "a huge win for Michigan's people and environment"*

**LANSING** – A ruling issued Friday in federal court affirms that Michigan's new restrictions on out-of-state waste are constitutional and can be implemented effective today.

"This is a huge win for Michigan's people and environment," said Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, R-Wyoming. "We've been fighting for years to get some control over imported trash, and now we have it."

The package of new laws imposes restrictions on the importation of Canadian and out-of-state waste, sets a two-year moratorium on new landfills and gives broader authority to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to enforce these tougher garbage standards.

Under the new rules, all Canadian and out-of-state waste is required to meet the same stringent standards Michigan has for its own waste. Landfills are required to refuse any out-of-state waste that does not meet the tough standards.

The new laws represent the culmination of a Senate Republican caucus initiative for the current legislative session to limit the importation of Canadian and out-of-state waste. Such waste accounts for approximately 25 percent of all trash entering Michigan's landfills.

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